

7/28/70

Dear Paul,

The publishing word on edited COUP is not good. Last Thursday I got a phone call from the man who was to have completed the editing by 7/15 saying not that he hadn't done it but that he hoped to get on it by the next day and to have it completed by 8/7. It was only when I interpreted this to mean that he hadn't started that he agreed. Then I got the contract, which was due long ago. I cannot sign it. Aside from offering only a third of the agreed-to advance, it is similar to the O in NO deal, which yielded not a cent, in some of its seemingly innocent provisions. This is what I learned from a brief glance, when my friendly IRS auditor was here (we hope he'll finish up today). I await a quiet moment when my nerves are in good condition for a careful reading of the contract and a response.

I have yet to meet the honest publisher. I've met many fine people working for publishers, some who remain deeply and sincerely principled, but none who handle the financial end.

To this moment, I have not had a chance to read the two additions I've drafted to the Ferrie documents complaint. As I earlier indicated, I intend the complaint to educate the DJ lawyers, the judge and the press, and to make a public record of some of the withheld evidence and falsifications, the kind of things lawyers ordinarily do not do, for they like to hold all such things for surprise. I know some of the DJ lawyers are already shaken, so I'd like to give them more to ponder.

I hope Jim Lesar has made a copy of the draft and sent it to you, as he was supposed to have done. I expect to be there tomorrow and will check.

The two things I have added is a reference to the Snyder telegram to TIMEo quoting Ferrie on his relations with the NO FBI and an unnamed agent on having been with Ferrie at the time of the assassination (we were cooling our heels together, he said), and the Martens arrest record, which neatly tied him and Ferrie and Arcache together in an official-document form and all of them with the CRC and its counter-revolutionary activities. I add a few things to this about the camps, etc., and from my own investigation. Like Chandler telling me the FBI interviewed him twice, but there is only one report (remember, this is a suit on withholding); Ricardo Davis telling me he was federally warned to close his camp (and there is no report on the radi, conducted by the FBI, but the nonsense about the Honduran labor shortage). To this I add that with permission, in Davis's case at his behest, I have and preserved tape recordings, including the description by his girl friend of their wild dash to sound the alarm.

The news from Savannah is strange. Jerry is capable of doing exactly what is reported. What does not make sense is that the FBI would get a 16-year-old to steal the files. And it is wierd that Jerry said the membership files were worth \$1,000, last night's report. Sounds like that legal eagle Stoner primed him.

Sincerely,